REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 11 and 20 have been amended to recite storing the table in a computer readable memory. Support for these amendments is found in the specification as originally filed, for example at paragraph 13. No new matter has been added.

The foregoing amendments obviate the rejections under 35 USC 101. Storing a table in memory is a tangible result of a computer-based process.

The rejection for obviousness-type double patenting in view of co-pending application 10/851,276 (now U.S. 6,975,767) is noted. Should the claims, as amended, be found allowable but for such obviousness-type double patenting an appropriate terminal disclaimer will be filed.

Independent claims 1, 11 and 20, and their respective dependent claims, are patentable over Malvar, US 2005/0094883 (issued as U.S. 7,120,307), even when considered in view of Sah, US 2003/0028509 (issued as U.S. 7,024,414).

In rejecting claims 1, and 20, the office action cites Malvar, paragraph [0005]. This portion of the Malvar reference describes the well-known JPEG compression process in which blocks of pixels are mapped to the frequency domain using the DCT, the DCT coefficients are quantized and then mapped to a one-dimensional vector which is further subjected to run length encoding. Such a process is quite different from that recited in the present claims.

For example, the present claims make it clear that multi-dimensional parameters with multiple constituent sub-parameters are mapped such that the resulting one-dimensional parameters have a single one of the sub-parameters. An example given in the specification is mapping an R-G-B data value to simply an R data value (see e.g., specification at paragraph 20). Unlike the JPEG process discussed by Malvar, there is no transformation of the data value to another data space (e.g., the DCT space). Moreover, the one-dimensional vector described by Malvar remains composed of DCT coefficients having multiple constituent sub-parameters. The one-dimensional nature of the vector simply refers to the fact that the former block of pixels has been reduced to a single line thereof. All of the original color information of the pixels remains encoded in the DCT values. Hence, claims 1 and 20 are patentable over Malvar.

Sah is cited for describing a run length encoding process in which redundant data values share common table entries. Even if true, however, the above-cited deficiencies would still be present in the combination of the references. Hence, claims 1 and 20 are patentable over the combination of Malvar and

Sah. Moreover, for at least the reasons given above, claim 11 is patentable over the combination of Malvar and Sah.

Adding the teachings of Lim (U.S. 5,339,164) to those of Malvar and Sah does not cure this deficiency. Lim is cited for demonstrating that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that data values comprise pixels, position information and color and for teaching transmitting a table of encoded data values to a receiver and decoding the table of encoded data values at the receiver. Even if true, however, the above-cited deficiencies would still be present in the combination of the references. Hence, the claims are patentable over the combination of Malvar, Sah and Lim.

Uchibayashi is cited for describing data values having parameter values that are similar to one another within a tolerance range. Even if true, however, the above-cited deficiencies would still be present in the combination of the references. Hence, the claims are patentable over the combination of Lim, Sah and Uchibayashi .

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

Dated: March 26, 2007   ___ *s/Tarek N. Fahmi/* _____
                               Tarek N. Fahmi
                               Reg. No. 41,402

P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station
Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
(415) 882-5023